

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 2702

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, XF, CA

SUBJECT: UNEF: CANADIAN LOGISTICS CONTINGENT

REF: STATE 224276; USUN 4665, 4697

1. AS INSTRUCTED IN STATE 224276 POLITICAL COUNSELOR DISCUSSED ON NOV 14 UNEF LOGISTIC PROBLEM WITH EXTAFF DIRGEN, DEFENSE AND ARMS CONTROL AFFAIRS (CAMERON), DRAWING ON ABOVE REFTELS.
2. COMERON RECALLED BRIEFLY UNSYG'S REQUEST FOR GOC PARTICIPATION IN UNEF FROM INITIAL FORMAL REQUEST THAT CANADA PERFORM ENTIRE LOGISTICS MISSION TO DIVIDING MISSION WITH POLES, TO PRESENT PROBLEM OF HOW FURTHER TO DIVIDE LOGISTICS TASK.
3. HE SAID LATEST UNSYG PROPOSAL IS TO DIVIDE REMAINING FUNCTIONS BETWEEN CANADIAN AND POLES WHICH RUNS COUNTER TO HOW GOC BELEIVES JOB SHOULD BE DONE. GOC HAD SUGGESTED THAT LOGISITC FUNCTION BE DIVIDED BETWEEN OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION WITH CANADIANS PREPARED ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR FORMER AND THE POLES TAKING ON THE LATTER. UNSYG NOW PROPOSING BOTH THESE FUNCTIONS BE SPLIT IN VARIOUS WAYS BETWEEN CANADIANS AND POLES.

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RM CANADA'S UN PERMREP, RAE, WAS INSTRUCTED THIS MORNING TO INFORM UNSYG THAT GOC WAS EXAMINING UNSYG LATEST PROPOSAL IN A "CONSTRUCTIVE WAY" AND THAT GOC WOULD PROVIDE ITS REPLY TO UNSYG THURSDAY MORNING,

NOV. 15.

5. CAMERON SAID NATIONAL DEFENSE EXAMINING DETAILS OF UNSYG'S PROPOSAL AND STILL TRYING TO SORT IT OUT. HE IS REASONABLY HOPEFUL THAT GOC WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE A CONSTRUCTIVE RESPONSE OR A CONSTRUCTIVE COUNTER OFFER.

6. CAMERON SAID GOC BELIEVES IT HAS BEEN "VERY ACCOMMODATING" IN ITS RESPONSE TO UNSYG'S REQUESTS-- WITHDRAWAL OF REQUESTS-- AND COUNTER REQUESTS. CANADIANS DO NOT SEE MUCH EVIDENCE OF PRESSURE BEING APPLIED TO POLES TO MAKE SIMILAR ADJUSTMENTS. RATHER THEY SENSE THAT UNSYG IS RELUCTANT TO GO BACK TO POLES AND PROPOSE CHANGES TO THEM WHILE FEELING NO INHIBITION ABOUT PUTTING PRESSURE ON CANADIANS. CONTRARY TO URGUHART'S VIEW THAT POLES WERE "DANGEROUSLY COOPERATIVE" (WHICH POLCOUNSELOR DID NOT RPT NOT MENTION TO CAMERON), CAMERON SAID CANADIANS HAVE RECEIVED REPORTS THAT THE POLES WERE NOT EAGER TO PARTICIPATE IN UNEF-- INDEED THERE WAS SOME EVIDENCE OF RELUCTANCE-- WHICH MIGHT EXPLAIN THE UNSYG'S PREFERENCE TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE CANADIANS RATHER THAN ON THE POLES.

7. CAMERON SAID CANADA'S ONLY OBJECTIVE WAS TO HELP MAKE UNEF A "REASONABLY EFFECTIVE FORCE." THEY RECOGNIZE THAT THERE ARE POLITICAL LIMITATIONS INHERENT IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNEF BUT WOULD HOPE THESE WOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO HAVE A SERIOUS ADVERSE EFFECT ON THE FORCE'S EFFECTIVENESS.

8. CAMERON DID NOT BELIEVE THE LATEST UNSYG PROPOSAL PRESENTED AN INSURMOUNTABLE OBSTACLE. IN ANY EVENT, CANADA WAS STUDYING IT ON AN URGENT BASIS AND IN GOOD FAITH.

9. REPORT OF PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE AND CANADIAN PARTICIPATION IN UNEF WHICH NOW UNDERWAY WILL BE CONFIDENTIAL

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REPORTED BY SEPARATE TELEGRAM.
SCHMIDT

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